

MINUTES
HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Friday, February 19, 2021

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Crane, Vice Chairman Armstrong, Representatives Palmer, Barbieri, Holtzclaw, Monks, Scott, Andrus, Young, Furniss, Hanks, Skaug, Gannon, Mathias

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representatives Armstrong and Monks

GUESTS: None

Rep. Barbieri called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

MOTION: **Rep. Young** made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from February 10, February 11, February 12, and February 16, 2021. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 28601: **Rep. Mitchell** presented **RS 28601** to improve voting integrity across county and legislative districts, increase confidence in Idaho's election results, and provide an auditing process led by the Secretary of State for examining the validity of affidavits signed by those who vote without a photo ID. Revisions include requiring a driver's license or state-issued photo ID for new voter registrations. For those Idahoans who do not have a driver's license, a state-issued ID would be provided for free to those wanting to register to vote.

Rep. Mitchell stated that in addition to requiring a valid ID, an individual must live in a precinct for 30 days prior to the election to vote in that precinct. The individual's drivers license must also be updated in the same time frame. Counties will take the pictures for the ID cards. Eighty-five percent of Idaho counties already have cameras. If students want to vote where they are attending school, the same requirements apply. Covering the cost of a valid photo ID for those who cannot afford one would cost \$10 each.

MOTION: **Rep. Palmer** made a motion to introduce **RS 28601**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 28469: **Rep. Skaug** presented **RS 28469**. This proposed legislation ensures taxpayer dollars would not support the abortion industry by prohibiting the expenditure of taxpayer dollars to abortion providers. It would prohibit public contracting or participation in any commercial transaction with an abortion provider. The legislation would also prohibit the use of any public asset or employee to procure, counsel in favor, refer to, or perform an abortion. These prohibitions would apply to all units of government in Idaho including state, county, municipal, public health districts, and public school districts. Intentional non-compliance would be subject to prosecution under the state's misuse of public funds statute. Medicaid would not be implicated in this proposed legislation.

Rep. Skaug indicated that **RS 28649** is a new and improved version of **H 17**. One of the main changes is intentional noncompliance will be prosecutable under the states misuse of public funds statute. It also allows Idaho to stop Title 10 funds from being used for abortion related activities. This is a de-funding bill. Hospitals would be exempt to this legislation. This legislation would not be able to stop all abortions but would be able to reduce them.

MOTION: **Rep. Young** made a motion to introduce **RS 28469**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

S 1018: **Rep. Crane** presented **S 1018**. Consistent with the Governor's Red Tape Reduction Act, this bill seeks to clarify statutes and eliminated inactive provisions of law. This legislation from the Idaho State Historical Society aligns the duties of the Director of the Society in relation to the responsibilities and role served concurrently as the State Historic Preservation Officer (Amend code 67-4127, 4127A), removes obsolete code assigned to the Idaho State Historical Society reducing risk to the state (repeal code 14-534), (Amend code 27-502), and brings current responsibility and proceeds alignment as related to lease of Old Idaho Penitentiary Site (Amend code 58-337).

Rep. Crane stated the Historical Society should not have to pay to exhume burial sites. The Historical Society makes a net income of \$250,000 on the rental of the Old Penitentiary site. These funds pay for the maintenance and operations for that property as well as other sites throughout Idaho. There is no excess income to put into the permanent building fund.

Janet Gallimore, Executive Director the Idaho State Historical Society and Director of the State Historic Preservation Office said that the State Historic Preservation Office is part of a federal program, located in every state and territory. The National Historic Preservation Act says that the Governor shall appoint a director. It is common practice for this director to serve in a concurrent with the Director of the State Historic Society. These two positions are commonly a dual directorship, streamlining the structure of administration and State and Federal code. It would not be efficient to have an outside person run the federal portion of the program. Participation is not voluntary. It is part of federal law.

There was a concern about eliminating code due to the Red Tape Reduction Act versus eliminating future options. **Ms. Gallimore** stated revenues generated by the Old Penitentiary are separate from authorization of the director's position. All funds raised through contributions and earned income goes back into maintenance of the Old Penitentiary and other historical sites throughout Idaho. This proposed legislation basically cleans up conflicts between state and federal code.

Ms. Gallimore clarified Idaho's National Historic Preservation Office is the local voice to federal decision making. This office works with five federal programs to ensure there is no unintended consequences to construction, etc. She shared that 10% of the federal funds received go toward historical projects on the local level and that the property tax program is very helpful in restorations.

MOTION: **Rep. Young** made a motion to **HOLD S 1018** in Committee.

During discussion discomfort was expressed about implementing federal statutes legislators have not read. **Ms. Gallimore** clarified the Historical Society budget is approximately \$7 million with a pass through from the federal government of between \$800,000 – \$1,000,000 based on per capita population. Depending on the number of grants received, federal funds make up between 25% - 40% of the entire budget.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Rep Furniss** made a substitute motion to send **S 1018** to the floor with **DO PASS** recommendation.

AMENDED SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Rep. Gannon** made an amended substitute motion to send **S 1018** to General Orders, to eliminate the words, "to fulfill the obligation of 54 U.S. C.302303", on Page 2 Lines 39-40. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Hartgen** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:48 a.m.

Representative Crane
Chair

Kelly Staskey
Secretary